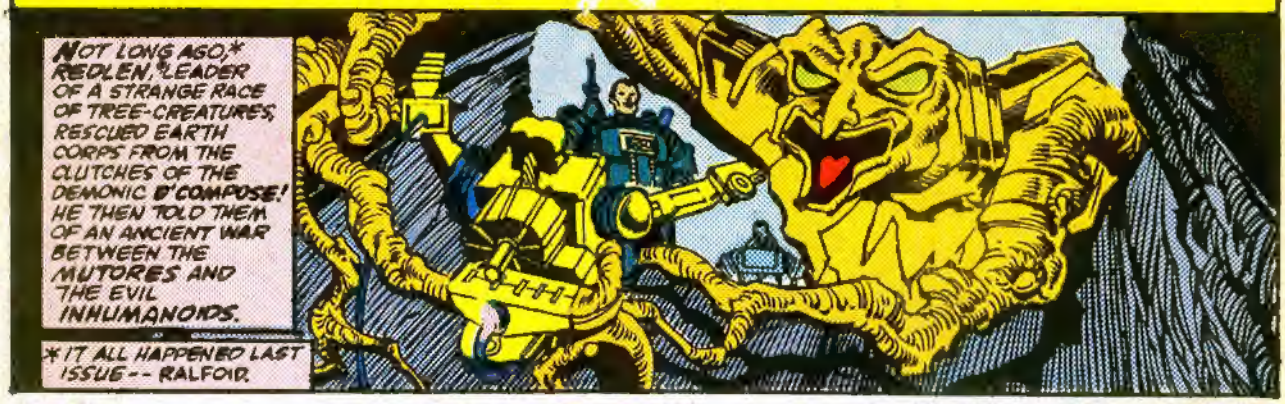
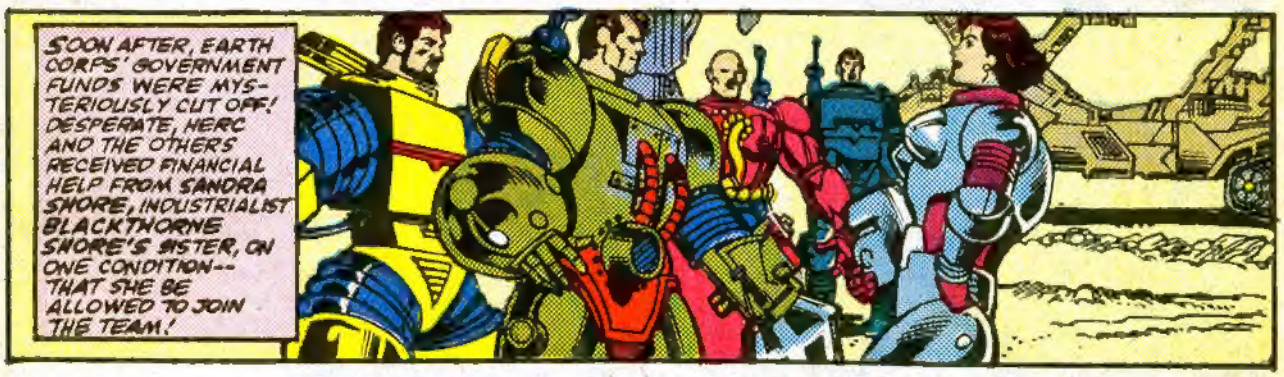
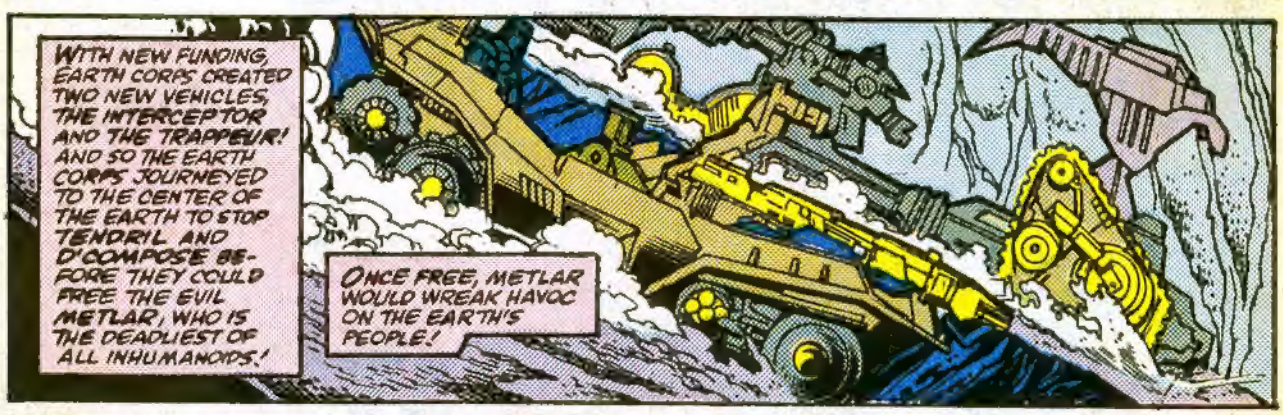
STAR™ comics
INHUMANOIDS™
$1.00 US
$1.25 CAN
4
JULY
UK 40p
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE
AUTHORITY
MARVEL®
METLAR™
UNLEASHED!
STAR!
THE NEW WORLD IN THE MARVEL UNIVERSE!

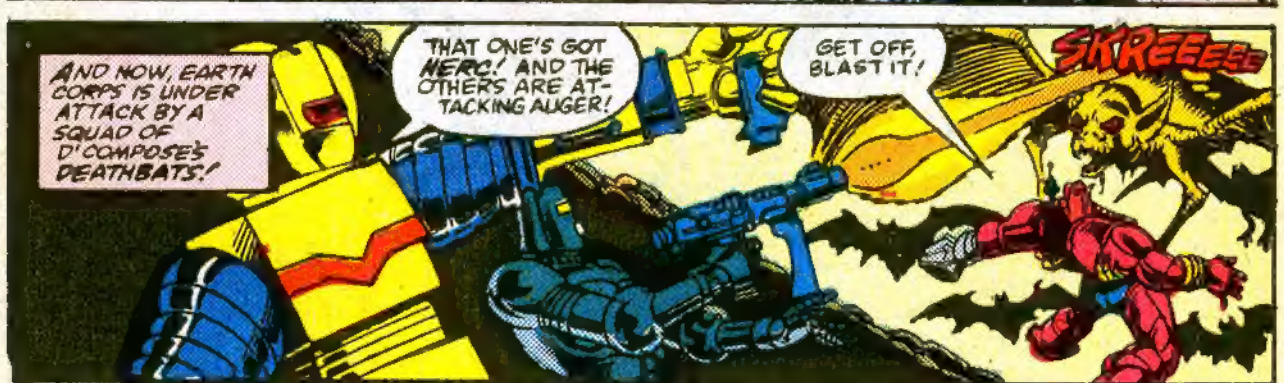
Four super-scientists—*Herc Armstrong, Derek Bright, Eddie (Auger) Augutter,* and *Jonathan M. (Liquidator) Slattery*—have joined forces to become *Earth Corps!* Their mission—to defend Earth from the ancient monsters from its core—

THE INHUMANOIDS™

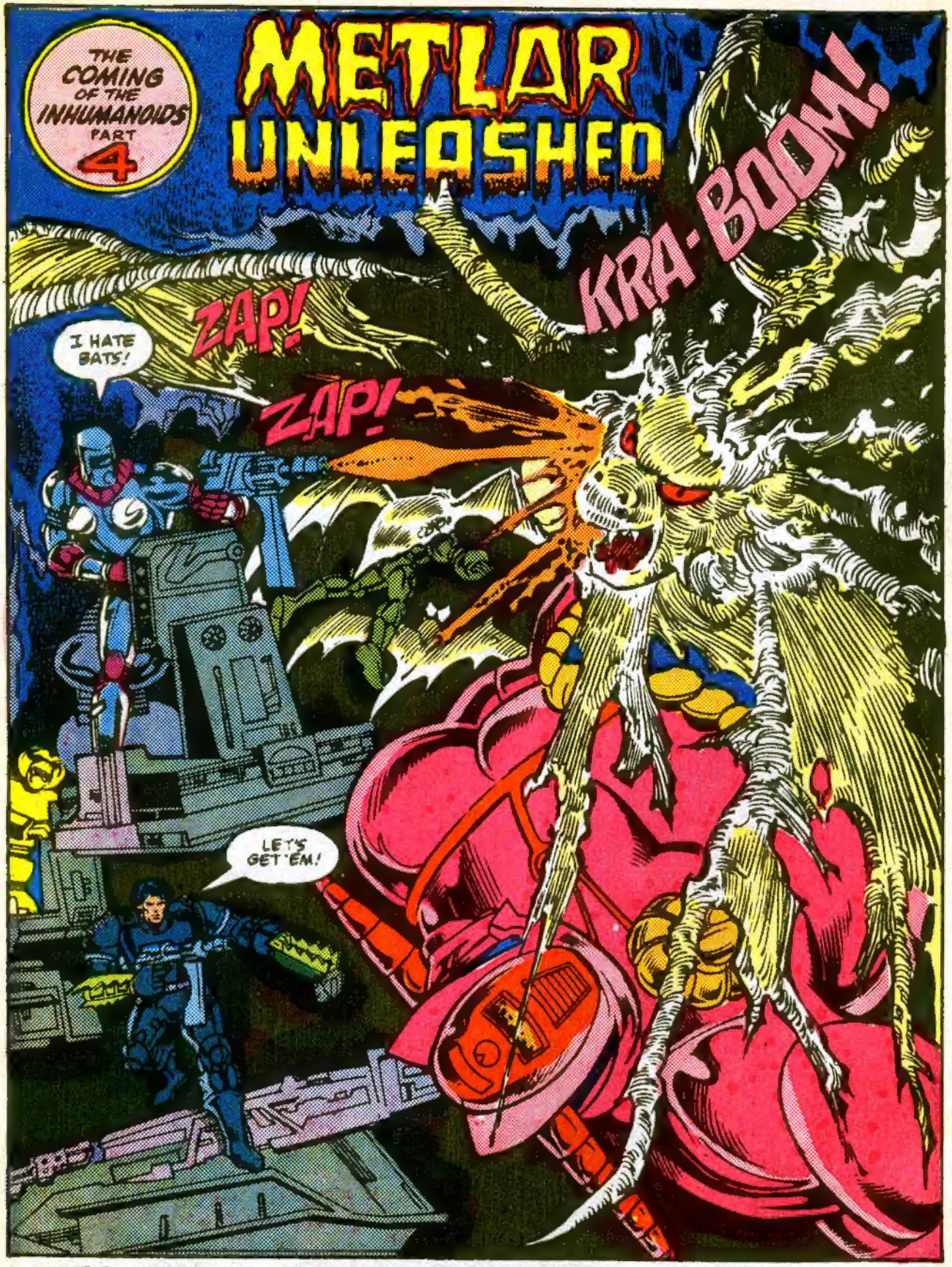








THE INHUMANOIDS™ Vol. 1, No. 4, July, 1987. Published by MARVEL COMICS, A NEW WORLD PICTURES COMPANY. James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobsen, Group Vice-President. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Published bi-monthly. Copyright © 1987 by HASBRO, INC. All rights reserved. Price $1.00 per copy in the U.S. and $1.25 in Canada. All advertising and editorial material copyright © 1987 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. STAR COMICS is a trademark of the Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. THE INHUMANOIDS (including all prominent characters featured in this issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of HASBRO, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO INHUMANOIDS, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.**

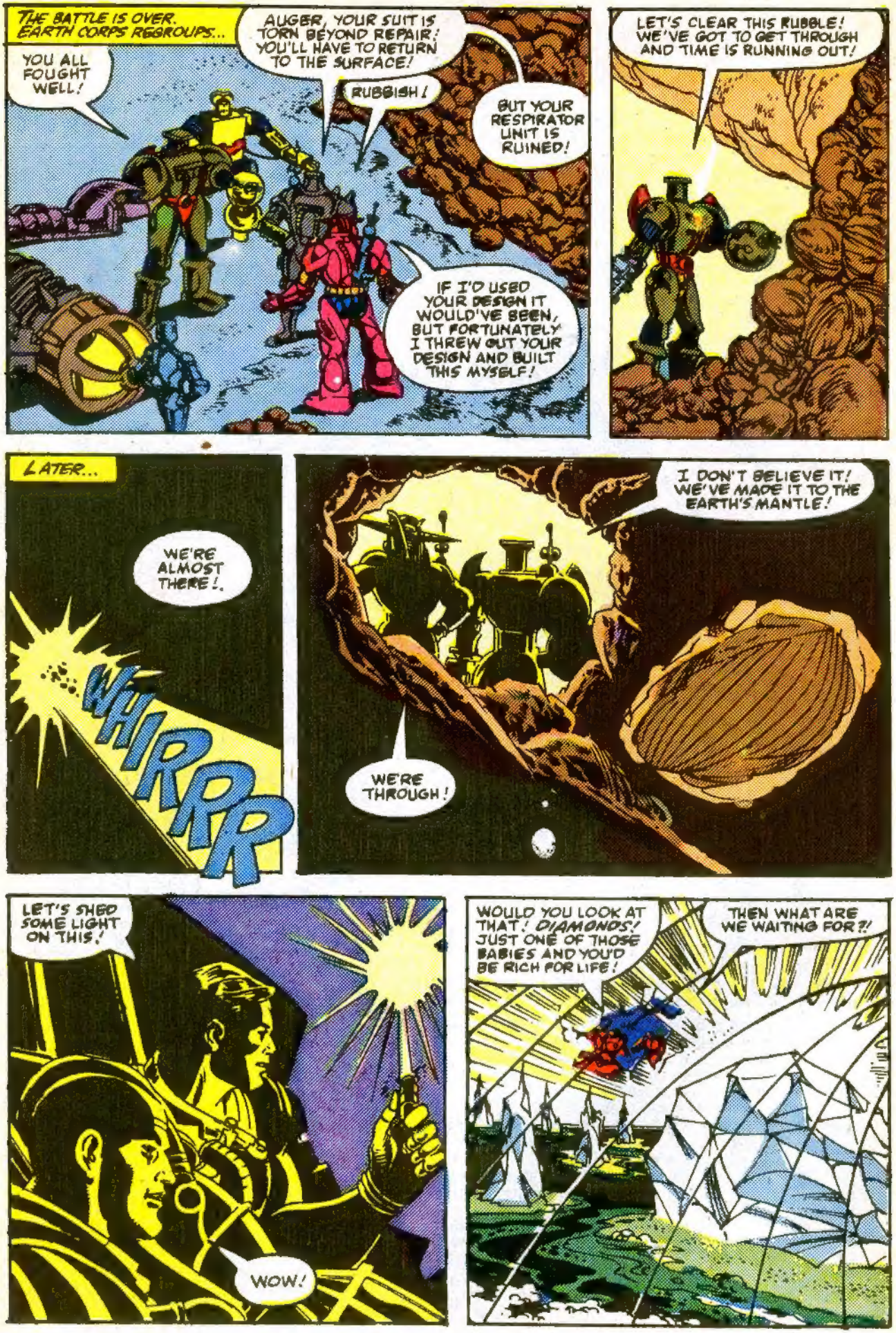


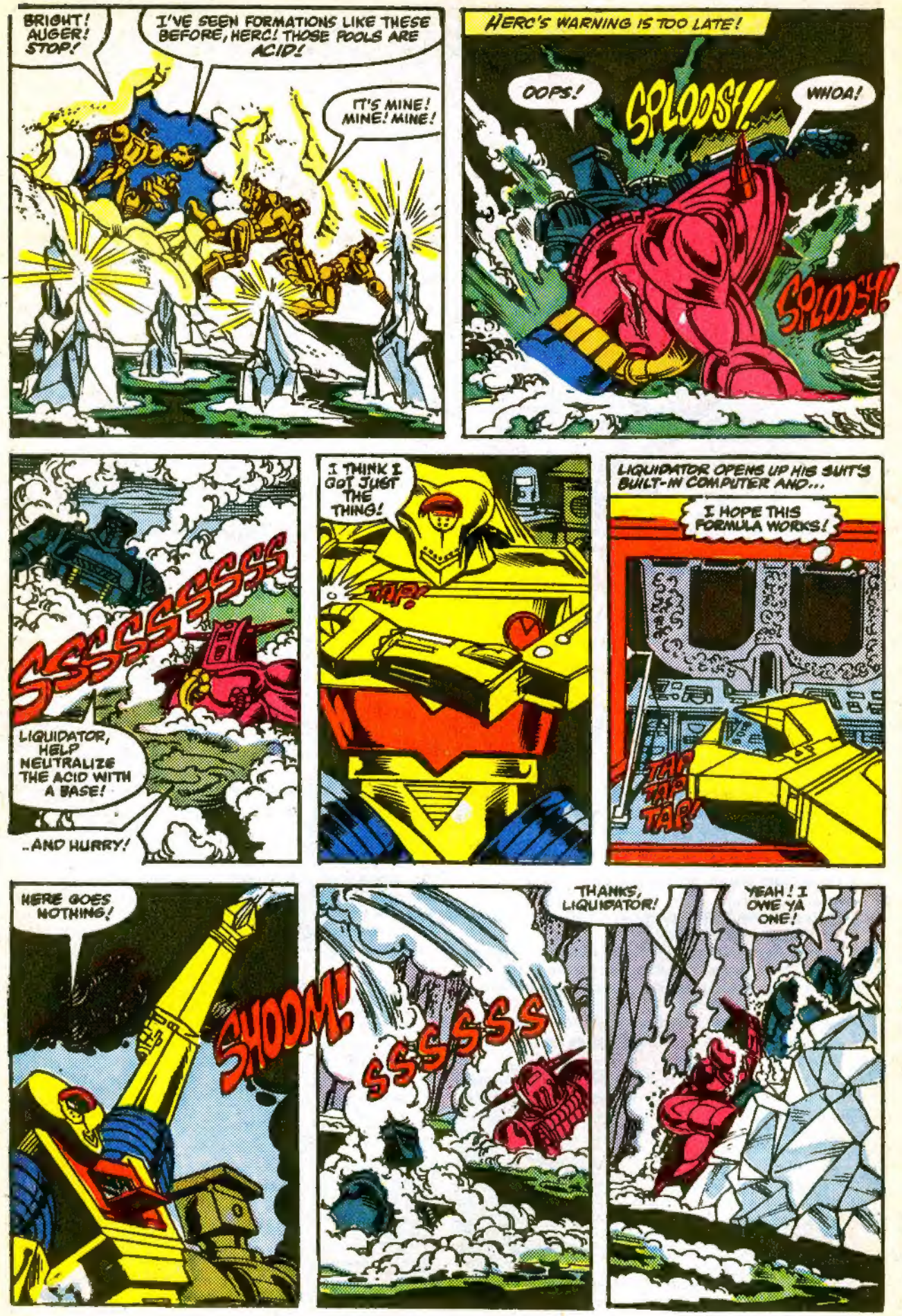
MORE MONSTER MADNESS BASED ON FLINT DILLE'S ANIMATED TELEPLAY

JIM SALICRUP	CARMINE INFANTINO	DANNY BULANADI	RICK PARKER	JULIANNA FERRITER	RALF MACCHIO	TOM DEFALCO	JIM SHOOTER
SCRIPT	PENCILS	INKS	LETTERS	COLOR	EDITOR	EXEC. EDITOR	ED. IN CHIEF

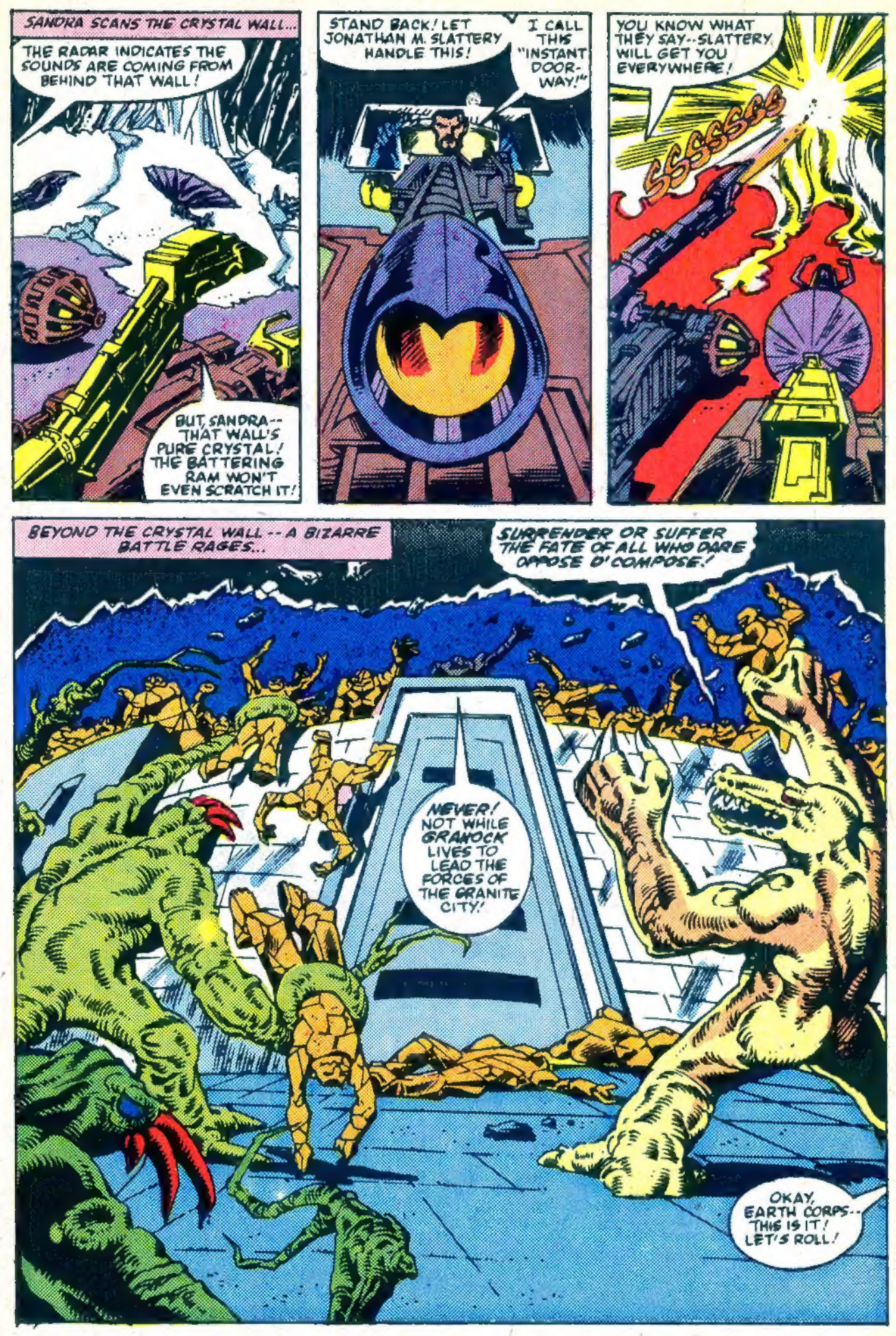
WHILE, HIGH ABOVE, HERC BATTLES THE DEATHBATS...
WE'RE GETTING A BIT CARRIED AWAY HERE! I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND--
SKREEE!
--BUT THIS IS WHERE I GET OFF! TRY NOT TO GO ALL TO PIECES ON ME!
KRA-BOOM!
MY HOOK TOOK CARE OF THE DEATHBAT-- BUT NOW WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?!
HEY, HERC! HAVEN'T YOU HEARD THE OLD PROVERB "NEVER SHOOT A BIRD WHO'S CARRYING YOU THROUGH THE AIR"?
HOW OLD'S THAT PROVERB, LIQUIDATOR?
BAM! BAM!
ZAP! ZAP!
ABOUT TEN SECONDS!
WHILE DOWN BELOW...
...AUGER BATTLES FOR HIS LIFE AGAINST A SWARM OF DEATHBATS!
SKREEE!
SKREEE!
BAT'S GOT MY GUN! BACK OFF, BATS!
IT CAN'T END LIKE THIS?!
SKREEE!

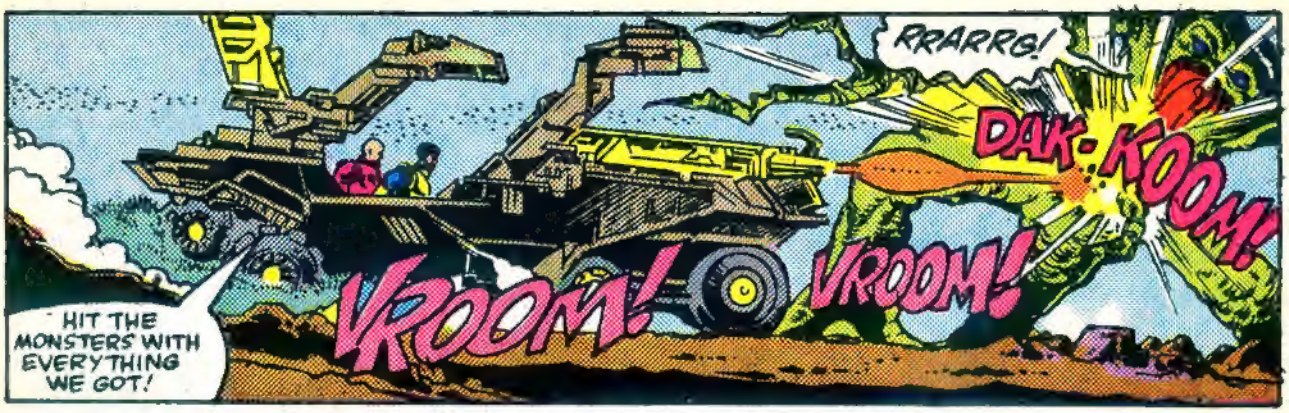
SUDDENLY, BRIGHT ENTERS THE SCENE ON HIS HOVERPOD...
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE HAPPY TO SEE YOU!
WAIT'LL YOU SEE MY BILL, AUGER!
MEANWHILE, SANDRA IS SURROUNDED BY DEATHBATS...
BATS! COMING AT ME FROM ALL SIDES!
GOING DOWN!
CRUNCH!
BAT'S ALL, FOLKS!
SANDRA IS A MOST EXTRAORDINARY WOMAN!
OH, NO! IT'S D'COMPOSE! I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!
ZAP!
BAH! SOON, YOU SHALL SUFFER IN SOLITARY SILENCE!
ZATCH!
HE'S SEALING OFF THE CAVE!
GREAT! NOW HOW DO WE GET OUT OF HERE?!
KRA-BOOM!


THE BATTLE IS OVER. EARTH CORPS REGROUPS...
YOU ALL FOUGHT WELL!
AUGER, YOUR SUIT IS TORN BEYOND REPAIR! YOU'LL HAVE TO RETURN TO THE SURFACE!
RUBBISH!
BUT YOUR RESPIRATOR UNIT IS RUINED!
IF I'D USED YOUR DESIGN IT WOULD'VE BEEN, BUT FORTUNATELY I THREW OUT YOUR DESIGN AND BUILT THIS MYSELF!
LET'S CLEAR THIS RUBBLE! WE'VE GOT TO GET THROUGH AND TIME IS RUNNING OUT!
LATER...
WE'RE ALMOST THERE!
WHIRRR
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! WE'VE MADE IT TO THE EARTH'S MANTLE!
WE'RE THROUGH!
LET'S SHED SOME LIGHT ON THIS!
WOW!
WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT! DIAMONDS! JUST ONE OF THOSE BABIES AND YOU'D BE RICH FOR LIFE!
THEN WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?!

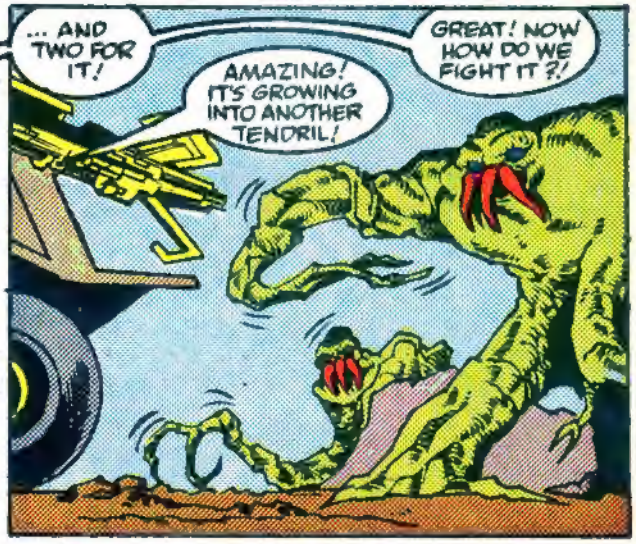

BRIGHT! AUGER! STOP!
I'VE SEEN FORMATIONS LIKE THESE BEFORE, HERC! THOSE POOLS ARE ACID!
IT'S MINE! MINE! MINE!
HERC'S WARNING IS TOO LATE!
OOPS!
SPLOOSH!
WHOA!
SPLOOSH!
SSSSSSSS
LIQUIDATOR, HELP NEUTRALIZE THE ACID WITH A BASE!
..AND HURRY!
I THINK I GOT JUST THE THING!
TAP!
LIQUIDATOR OPENS UP HIS SUIT'S BUILT-IN COMPUTER AND...
I HOPE THIS FORMULA WORKS!
TAP TAP TAP!
HERE GOES NOTHING!
SHOOM!
SSSSSS
THANKS, LIQUIDATOR!
YEAH! I OWE YA ONE!

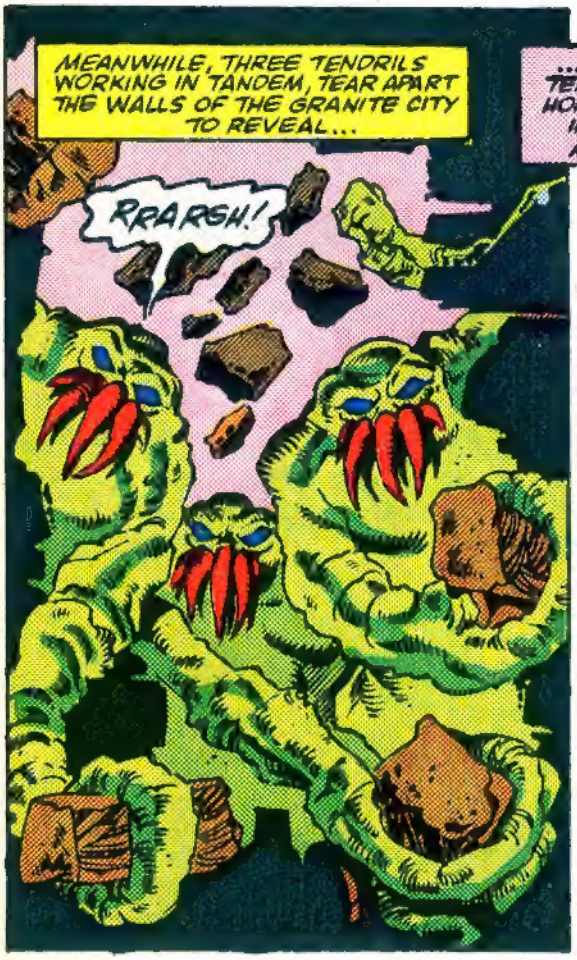
I'M GLAD YOU TWO ARE ALL RIGHT--
-- BUT THE NEXT MEMBER OF THIS EXPEDITION WHO ACTS AGAINST ORDERS WILL BE SENT TO THE SURFACE! IS THAT CLEAR?!
UNDERSTOOD, HERC!
I BET EVEN LIBERACE NEVER SAW DIAMONDS LIKE THESE!
YEAH, I GUESS WE LOST OUR HEADS!
UNBEKNOWNST TO EARTH CORPS, A MYSTERIOUS FIGURE WATCHES THEM...
SOON I WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE MY MOVE!
LATER, RIDING THE TRAPPEUR AND THE INTERCEPTOR, THE EARTH CORPS PRESSES ON...
WHO COULD HAVE IMAGINED THE EARTH'S MANTLE WOULD BE THIS BEAUTIFUL?
AND THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING!
HERC, I'M PICKING UP SOMETHING!
WHAT?!
I DON'T KNOW, BUT IT'S GOT A CATCHY BEAT! I'LL PUT IT ON THE SPEAKER SO WE ALL CAN HEAR...!
IT SOUNDS LIKE A BATTLE! WE'RE TOO LATE!
NONSENSE! IT'S NOT OVER TILL IT'S OVER! TRACK THE SOUNDS!


SANDRA SCANS THE CRYSTAL WALL...
THE RADAR INDICATES THE SOUNDS ARE COMING FROM BEHIND THAT WALL!
BUT, SANDRA-- THAT WALL'S PURE CRYSTAL! THE BATTERING RAM WON'T EVEN SCRATCH IT!
STAND BACK! LET JONATHAN M. SLATTERY HANDLE THIS!
I CALL THIS "INSTANT DOOR-WAY!"
YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY--SLATTERY WILL GET YOU EVERYWHERE!
SSSSSSS
BEYOND THE CRYSTAL WALL--A BIZARRE BATTLE RAGES...
SURRENDER OR SUFFER THE FATE OF ALL WHO DARE OPPOSE D'COMPOSE!
NEVER! NOT WHILE GRAMOCK LIVES TO LEAD THE FORCES OF THE GRANITE CITY!
OKAY, EARTH CORPS-- THIS IS IT! LET'S ROLL!

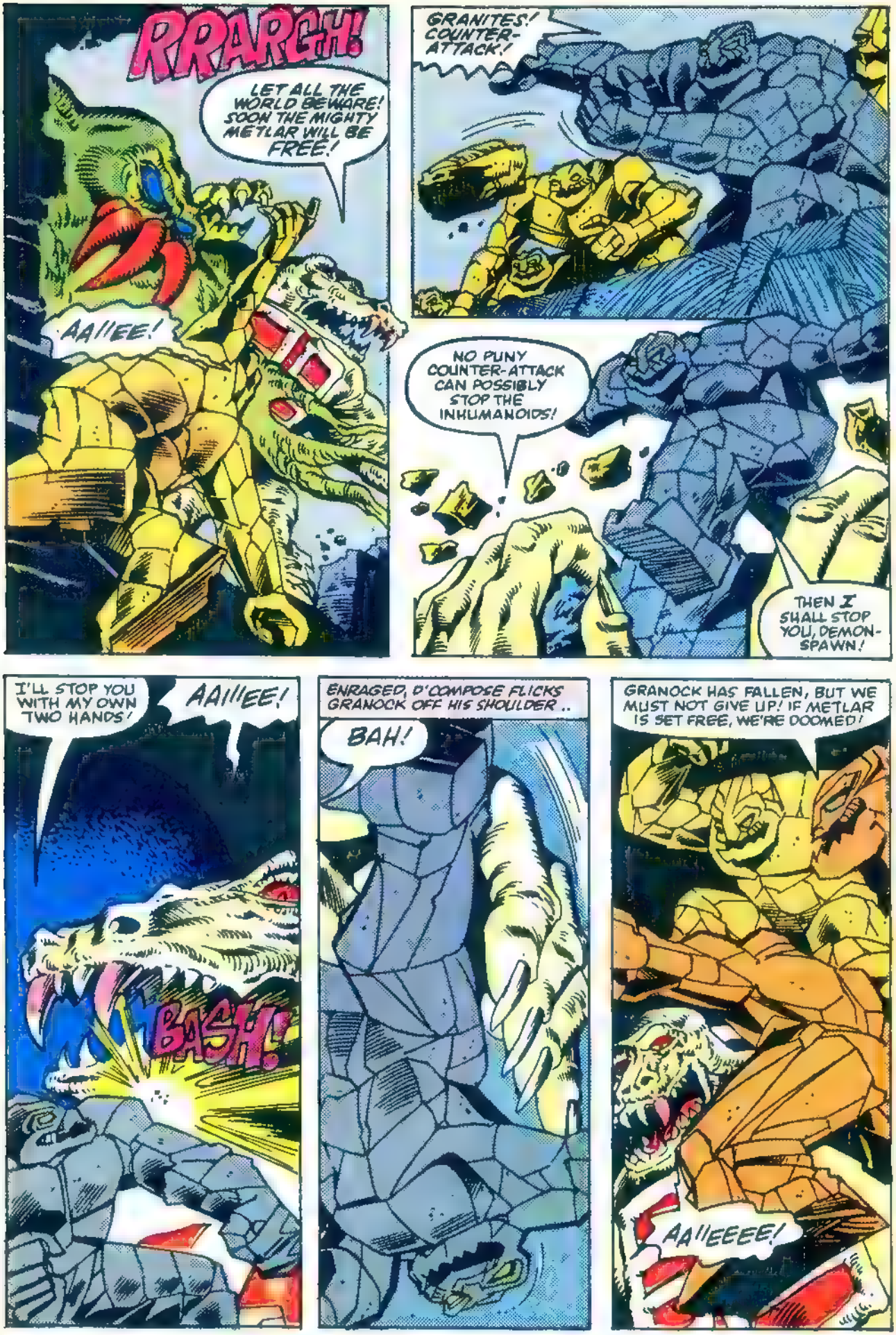

RRARRG!
DAK-KOOM!
VROOM!
VROOM!
HIT THE MONSTERS WITH EVERYTHING WE GOT!

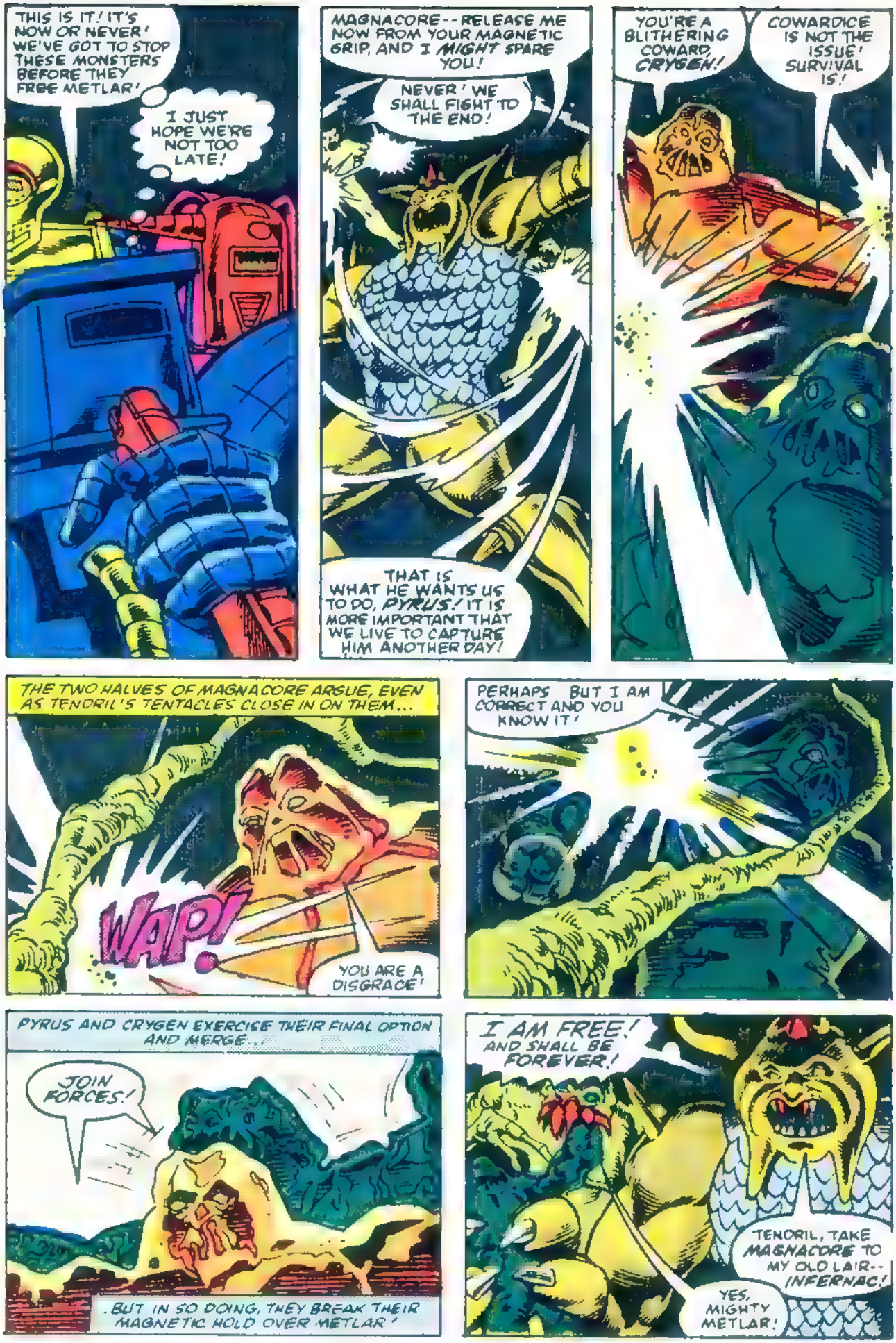
GOOD SHOT, AUGER!
SCORE ONE FOR US!


... AND TWO FOR IT!
AMAZING! IT'S GROWING INTO ANOTHER TENDRIL!
GREAT! NOW HOW DO WE FIGHT IT?!

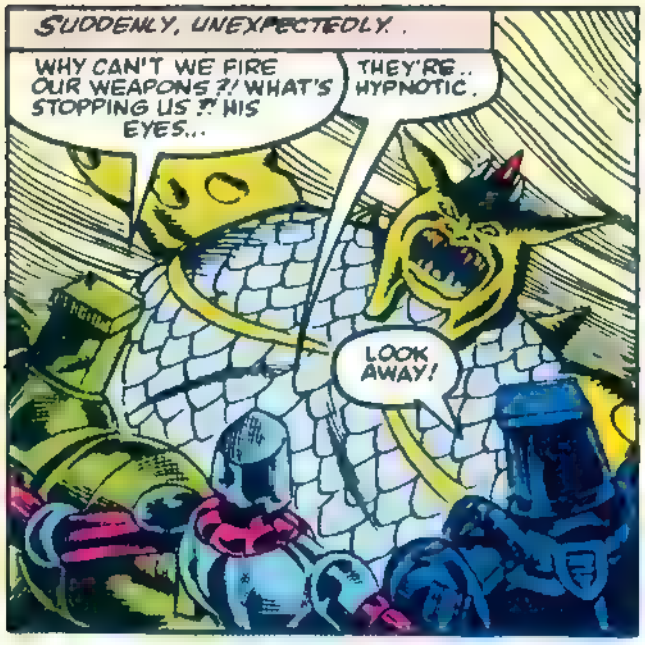

MEANWHILE, THREE TENDRILS WORKING IN TANDEM, TEAR APART THE WALLS OF THE GRANITE CITY TO REVEAL...
RRARGH!

...THE MOST TERRIFYING AND HORRIBLE OF ALL INHUMANOIDS-- METLAR!
RHAHAHRGH!
ONLY THE MAGNETIC POWER OF THE TWO HALVES OF MAGNACORE HOLD BACK THE EVIL EARTH-SHATTERING POWER OF METLAR!

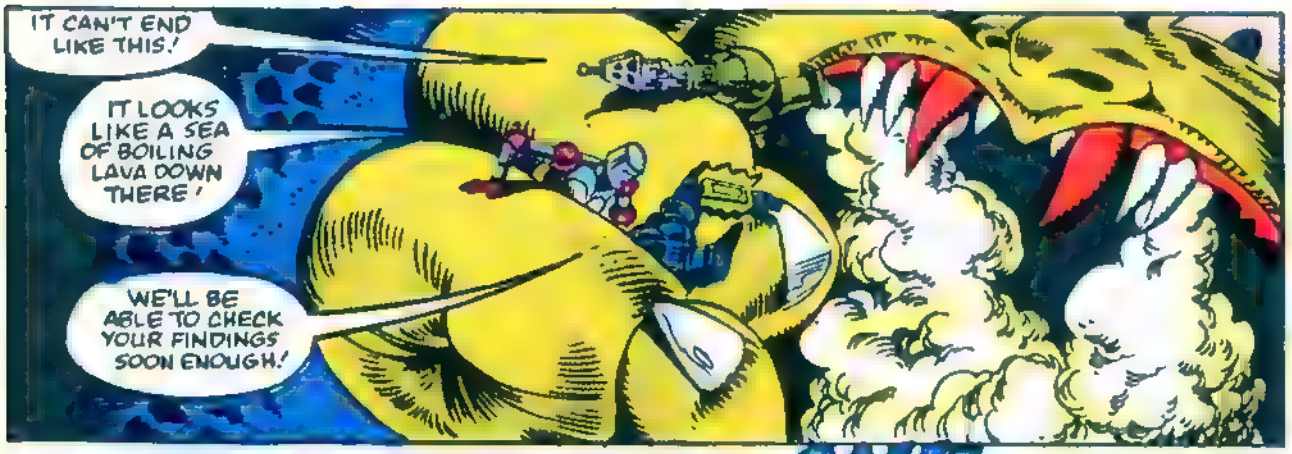

RRARGH!
LET ALL THE WORLD BEWARE! SOON THE MIGHTY METLAR WILL BE FREE!
AA!!EE!
GRANITES! COUNTER-ATTACK!
NO PUNY COUNTER-ATTACK CAN POSSIBLY STOP THE INHUMANOIDS!
THEN I SHALL STOP YOU, DEMON-SPAWN!
I'LL STOP YOU WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS!
AA!!EE!
BASH!
ENRAGED, D'COMPOSE FLICKS GRANOCK OFF HIS SHOULDER ..
BAH!
GRANOCK HAS FALLEN, BUT WE MUST NOT GIVE UP! IF METLAR IS SET FREE, WE'RE DOOMED!
AA!!EEEE!

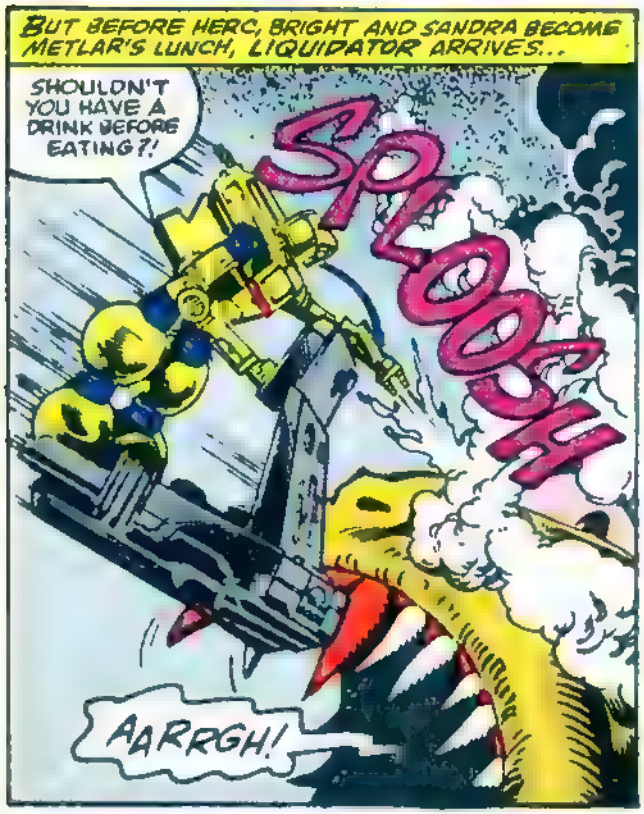

THIS IS IT! IT'S NOW OR NEVER! WE'VE GOT TO STOP THESE MONSTERS BEFORE THEY FREE METLAR!
I JUST HOPE WE'RE NOT TOO LATE!
MAGNACORE--RELEASE ME NOW FROM YOUR MAGNETIC GRIP, AND I MIGHT SPARE YOU!
NEVER! WE SHALL FIGHT TO THE END!
THAT IS WHAT HE WANTS US TO DO, PYRUS! IT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAT WE LIVE TO CAPTURE HIM ANOTHER DAY!
YOU'RE A BLITHERING COWARD, CRYGEN!
COWARDICE IS NOT THE ISSUE! SURVIVAL IS!
THE TWO HALVES OF MAGNACORE ARGUE, EVEN AS TENDRIL'S TENTACLES CLOSE IN ON THEM...
WAP!
YOU ARE A DISGRACE!
PERHAPS BUT I AM CORRECT AND YOU KNOW IT!
PYRUS AND CRYGEN EXERCISE THEIR FINAL OPTION AND MERGE...
JOIN FORCES!
BUT IN SO DOING, THEY BREAK THEIR MAGNETIC HOLD OVER METLAR!
I AM FREE! AND SHALL BE FOREVER!
TENDRIL, TAKE MAGNACORE TO MY OLD LAIR--INFERNAC!
YES, MIGHTY METLAR!

THE GRANITE FLEE TO THEIR HOMES, BUT EARTH CORPS DOESN'T GIVE UP...
SHOOT THE HOOK, DEREK! WE'RE GOING AFTER MIGHTY BIG FISH!
WHO'S FISHING FOR WHOM, HERC?!
BAH! IS THIS THE BEST THEY CAN DO?
CRASH!
I CRAVE A CHALLENGE! WHO SHALL TEST METLAR'S METTLE?
I VOLUNTEER
ZAPPA!
FEEL THE WRATH OF METLAR, SURFACE CREATURES!
KRA-BOOM!
I HOPE OUR INSURANCE IS PAID UP!

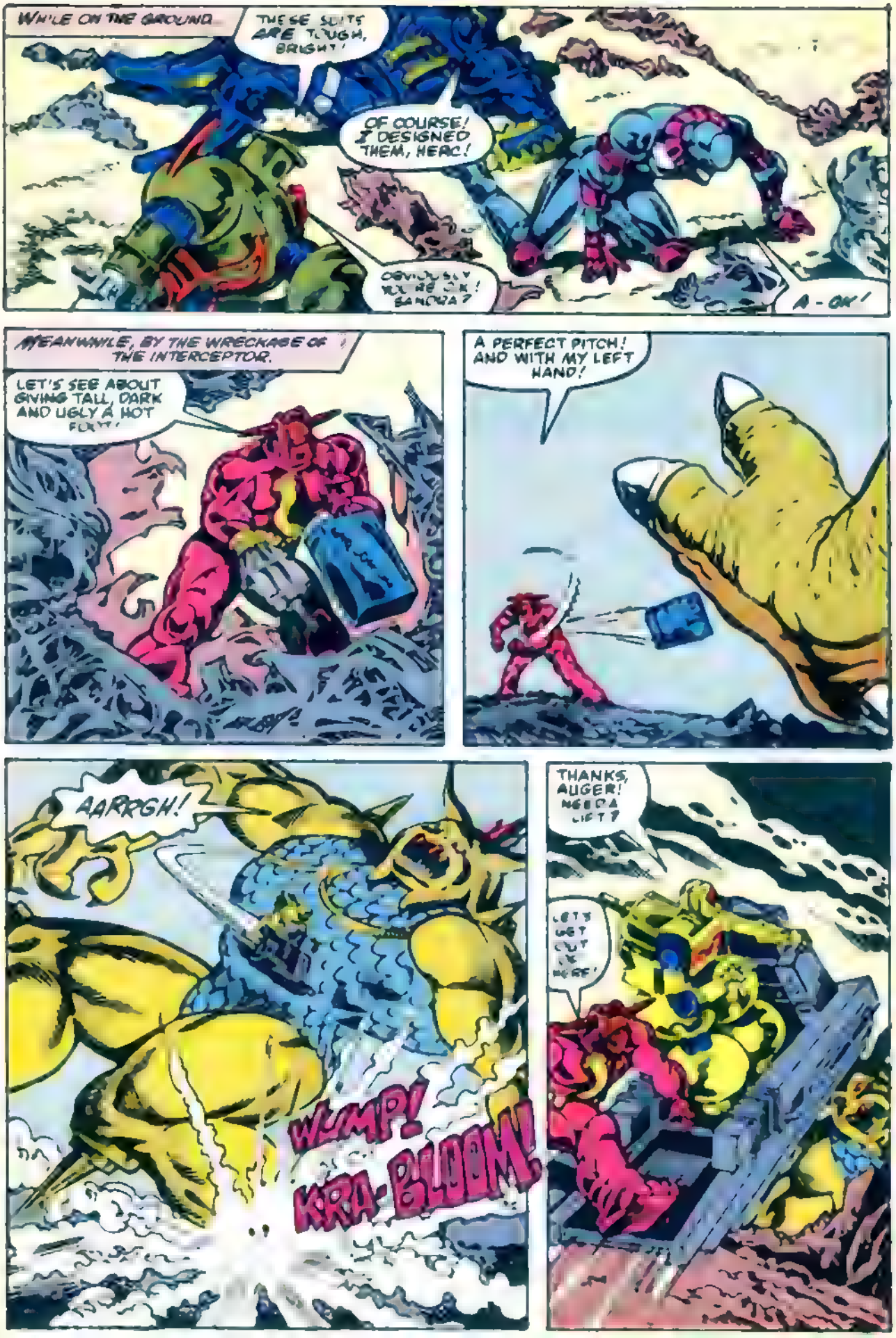

SUDDENLY, UNEXPECTEDLY...
WHY CAN'T WE FIRE OUR WEAPONS?! WHAT'S STOPPING US?! HIS EYES...
THEY'RE.. HYPNOTIC.
LOOK AWAY!

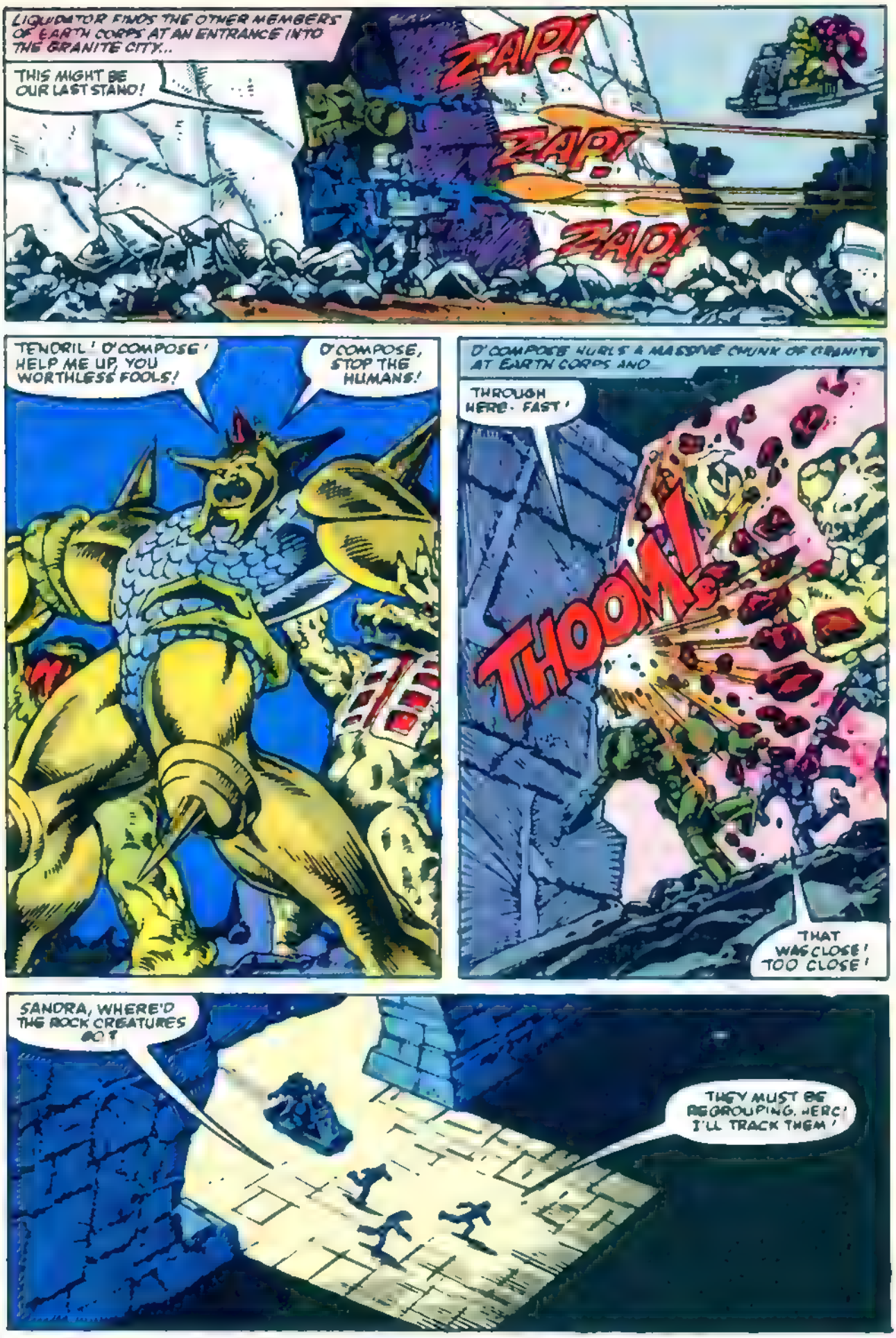
EARTH CORPS DOESN'T EVEN SEE METLAR'S GNARLED HAND UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE...
I THINK HE'S HUNGRY!

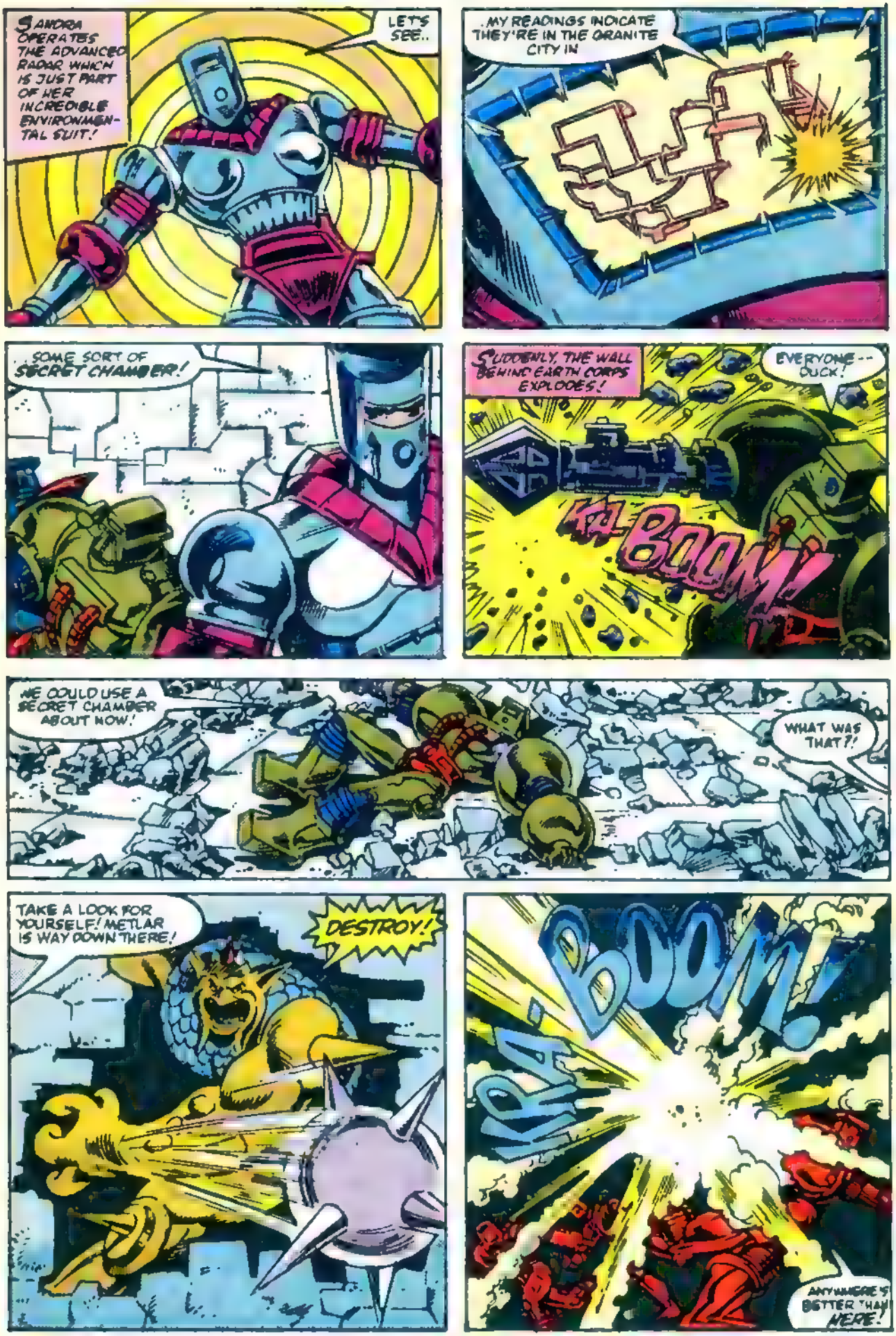

IT CAN'T END LIKE THIS!
IT LOOKS LIKE A SEA OF BOILING LAVA DOWN THERE!
WE'LL BE ABLE TO CHECK YOUR FINDINGS SOON ENOUGH!

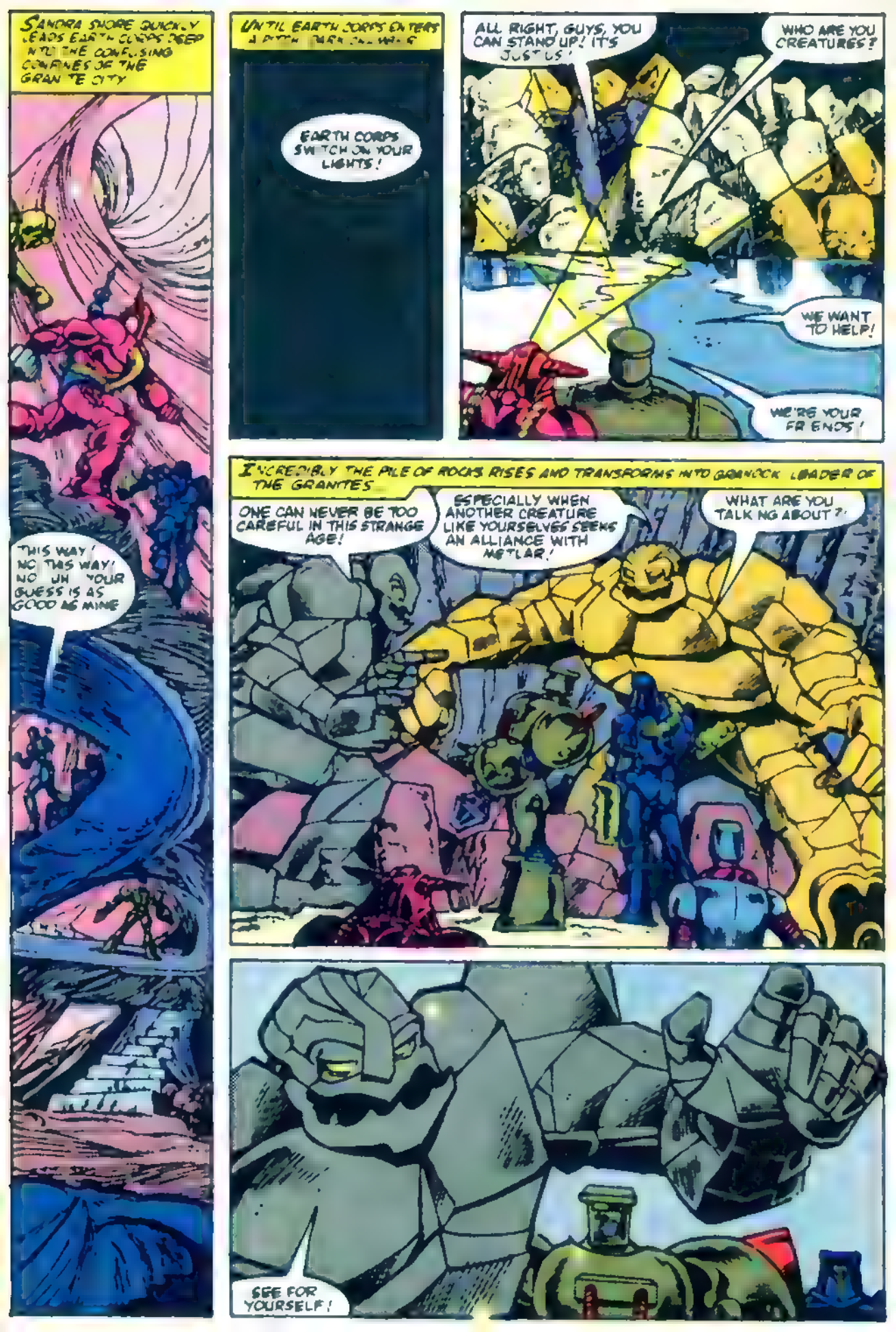

BUT BEFORE HERC, BRIGHT AND SANDRA BECOME METLAR'S LUNCH, LIQUIDATOR ARRIVES...
SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE A DRINK BEFORE EATING?!
SPLOOSH
AARRGH!

AARGH!
BOY, ARE YOU STEAMED!
AARRGH!
YOU SAID THAT ALREADY!

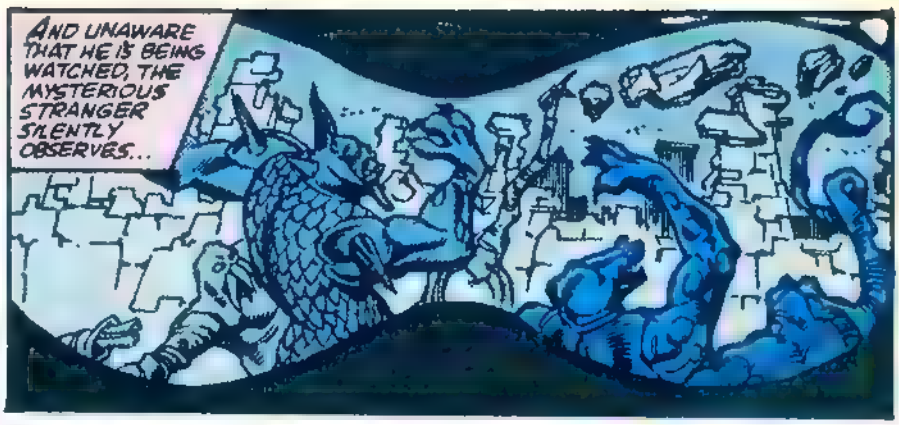

WHILE ON THE GROUND...
THESE SUITS ARE TOUGH, BRIGHT!
OF COURSE! I DESIGNED THEM, HERC!
OBVIOUSLY YOU'RE OK! SANCHA?
A-OK!
MEANWHILE, BY THE WRECKAGE OF THE INTERCEPTOR.
LET'S SEE ABOUT GIVING TALL, DARK AND UGLY A HOT FOOT!
A PERFECT PITCH! AND WITH MY LEFT HAND!
AARRGH!
WUMP!
KRA-BLOOM!
THANKS, AUGER! NEED A LIFT?
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!


LIQUIDATOR FINDS THE OTHER MEMBERS OF EARTH CORPS AT AN ENTRANCE INTO THE GRANITE CITY...
THIS MIGHT BE OUR LAST STAND!
ZAP!
ZAP!
ZAP!
TENDRIL! D'COMPOSE! HELP ME UP, YOU WORTHLESS FOOLS!
D'COMPOSE, STOP THE HUMANS!
D'COMPOSE HURLS A MASSIVE CHUNK OF GRANITE AT EARTH CORPS AND...
THROUGH HERE- FAST!
THOOM!
THAT WAS CLOSE! TOO CLOSE!
SANDRA, WHERE'D THE ROCK CREATURES GO?
THEY MUST BE REGROUPING, HERC! I'LL TRACK THEM!


SANDRA OPERATES THE ADVANCED RADAR WHICH IS JUST PART OF HER INCREDIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL SUIT!
LET'S SEE..
..MY READINGS INDICATE THEY'RE IN THE GRANITE CITY IN
..SOME SORT OF SECRET CHAMBER!
SUDDENLY, THE WALL BEHIND EARTH CORPS EXPLODES!
EVERYONE -- DUCK!
KA-BOOM!
WE COULD USE A SECRET CHAMBER ABOUT NOW!
WHAT WAS THAT?!
TAKE A LOOK FOR YOURSELF! METLAR IS WAY DOWN THERE!
DESTROY!
BOOM!
ANYWHERE'S BETTER THAN HERE!

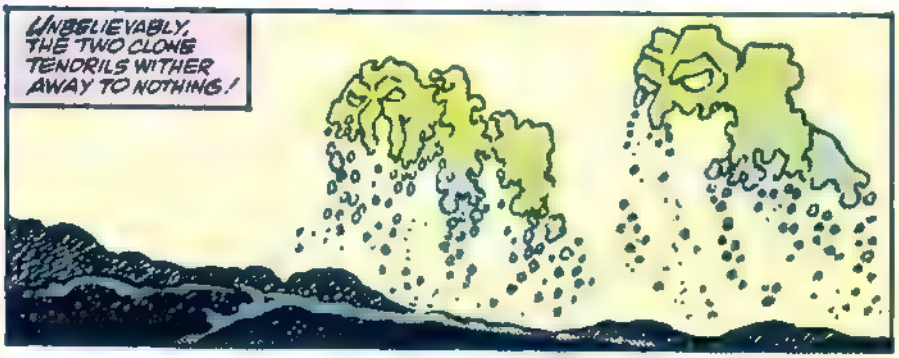

SANDRA SHORE QUICKLY LEADS EARTH CORPS DEEP INTO THE CONFUSING CONFINES OF THE GRANITE CITY
THIS WAY! NO THIS WAY! NO UH YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS MINE
UNTIL EARTH CORPS ENTERS A PITCH DARK CHAMBER
EARTH CORPS SWITCH ON YOUR LIGHTS!
ALL RIGHT, GUYS, YOU CAN STAND UP! IT'S JUST US!
WHO ARE YOU CREATURES?
WE WANT TO HELP!
WE'RE YOUR FRIENDS!
INCREDIBLY THE PILE OF ROCKS RISES AND TRANSFORMS INTO GRANOCK LEADER OF THE GRANITES
ONE CAN NEVER BE TOO CAREFUL IN THIS STRANGE AGE!
ESPECIALLY WHEN ANOTHER CREATURE LIKE YOURSELVES SEEKS AN ALLIANCE WITH METLAR!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
SEE FOR YOURSELF!

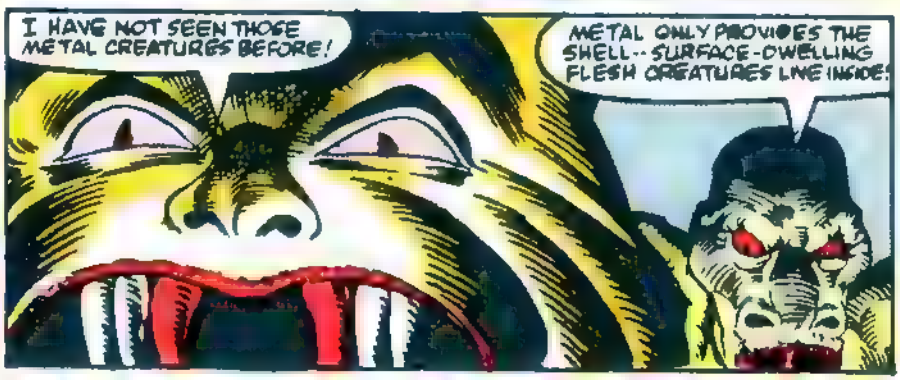
THERE!
WHO'S THAT GUY?


AND UNAWARE THAT HE IS BEING WATCHED, THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER SILENTLY OBSERVES...

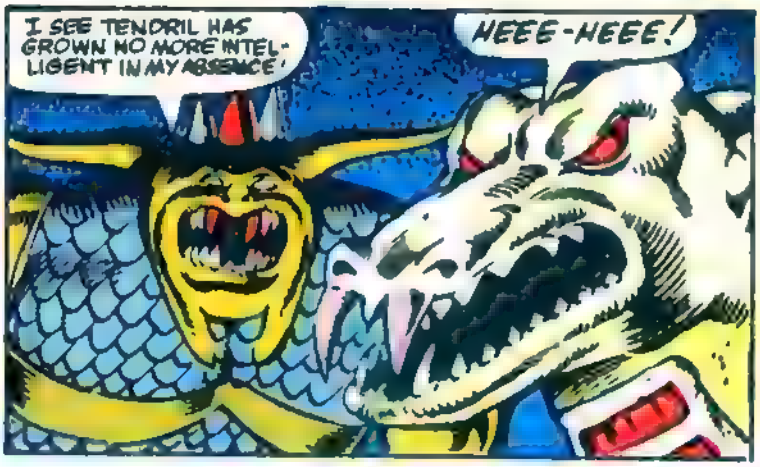
...THE END OF THE GRANITE CITY!
KRASH!

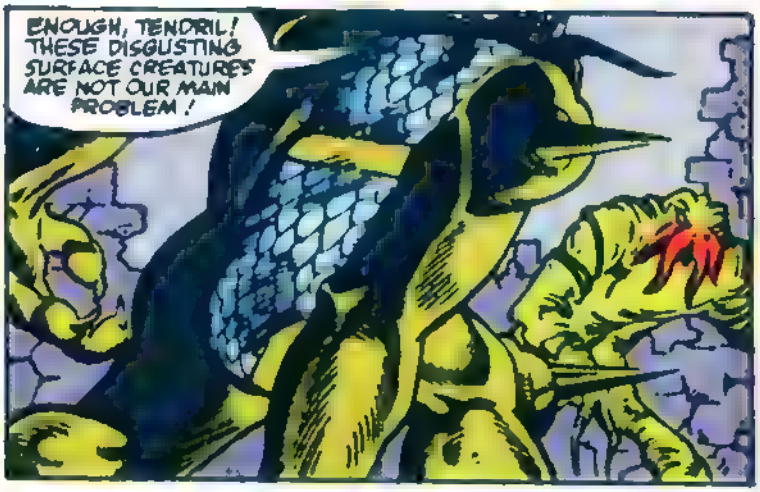
THAT IS ENOUGH, TENDRIL! WE HAVE NO MORE NEED FOR YOUR CLONES!
TENDRILS... WITHER!


UNBELIEVABLY, THE TWO CLONE TENDRILS WITHER AWAY TO NOTHING!

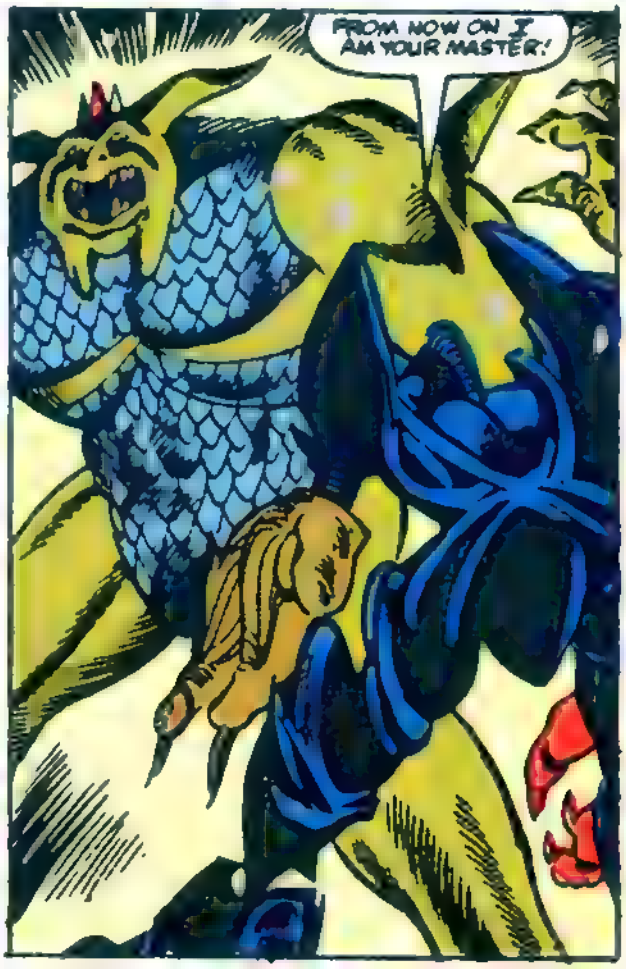

I HAVE NOT SEEN THOSE METAL CREATURES BEFORE!
METAL ONLY PROVIDES THE SHELL--SURFACE-DWELLING FLESH CREATURES LIVE INSIDE.

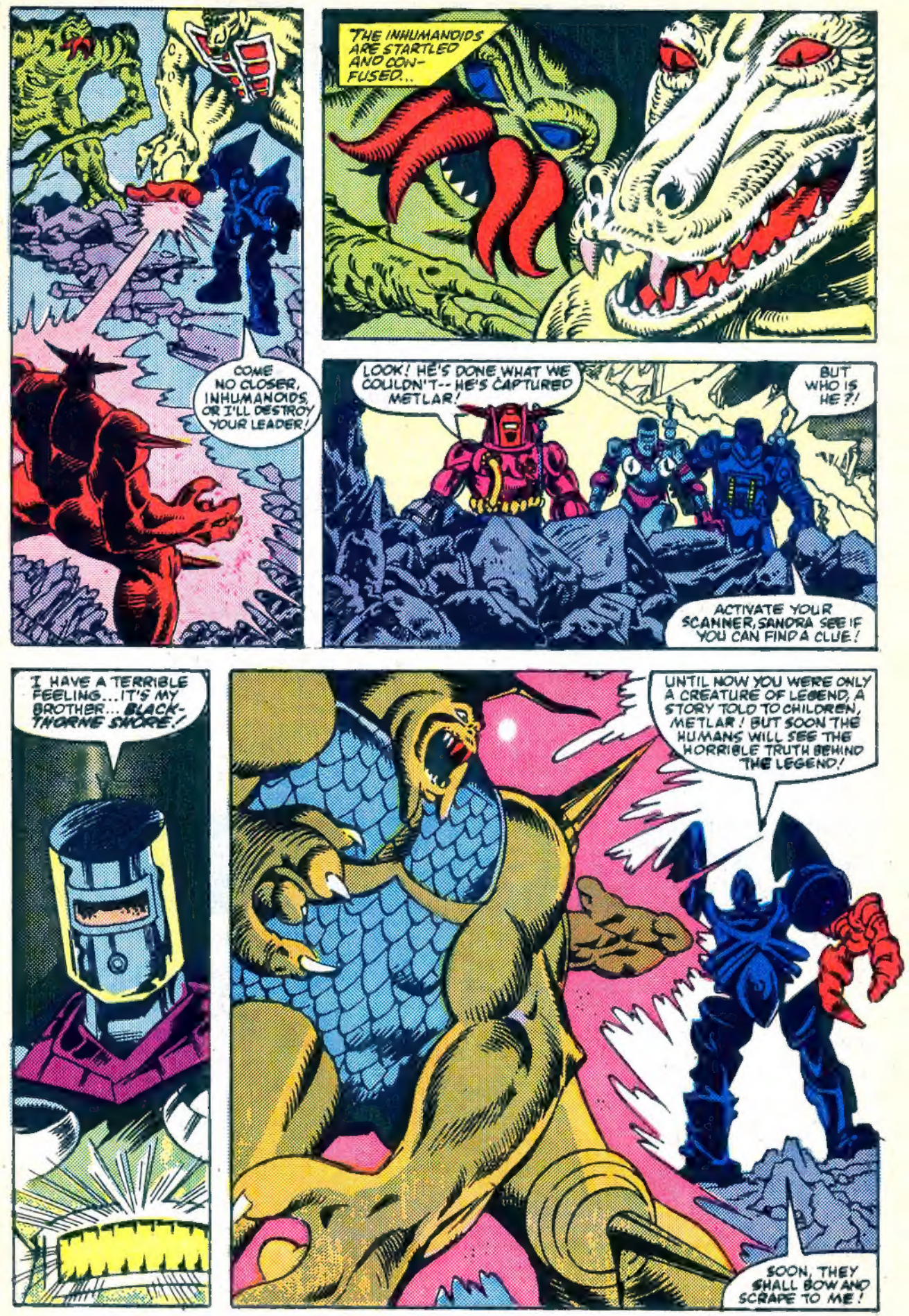
TENDRIL! IT WILL BE YOUR DUTY TO SPATTER THEM!
GOOEY, SLIMY, SQUISHY, SQUISHY PULP--STOMP!

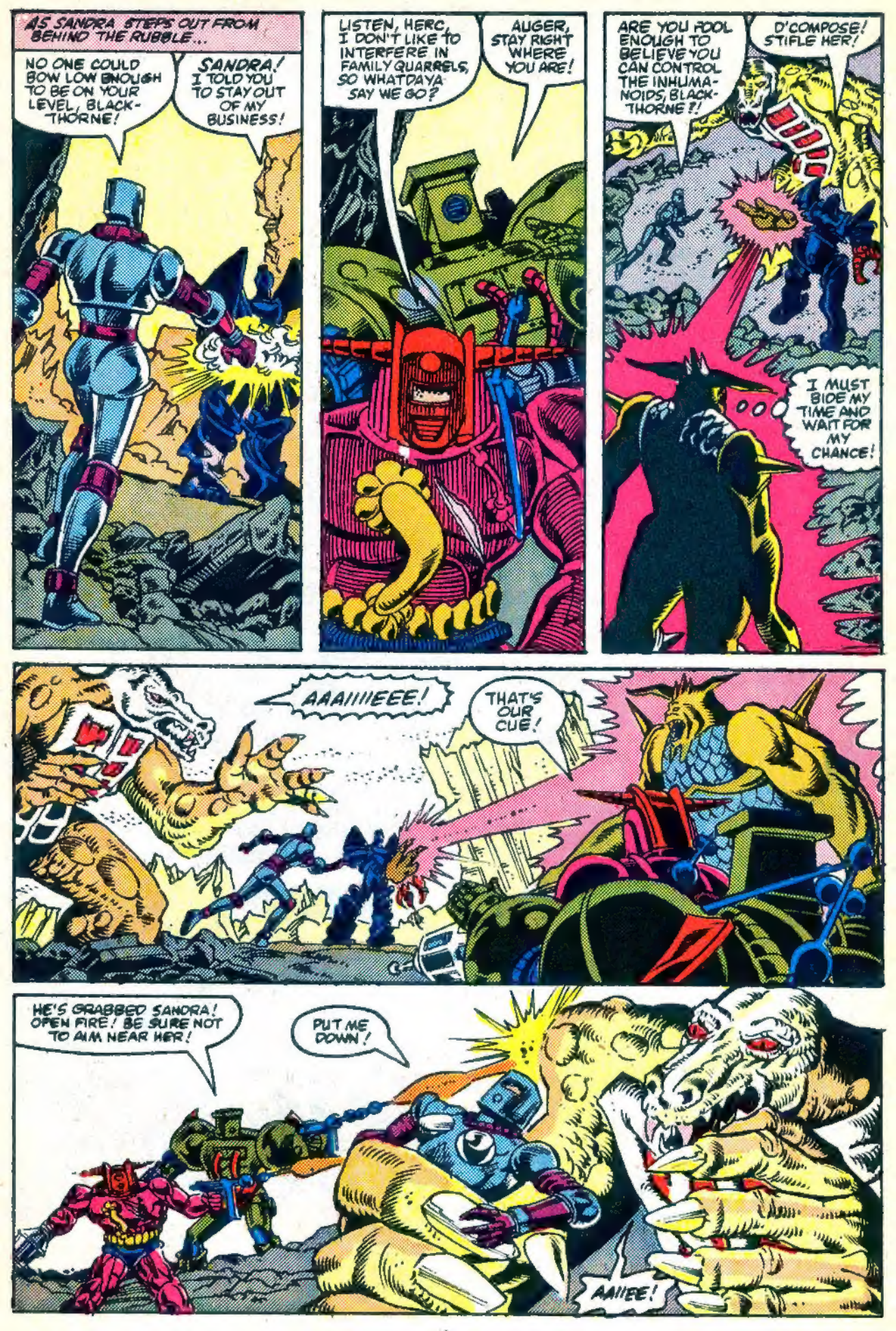

I SEE TENDRIL HAS GROWN NO MORE INTELLIGENT IN MY ABSENCE!
HEEE-HEEE!

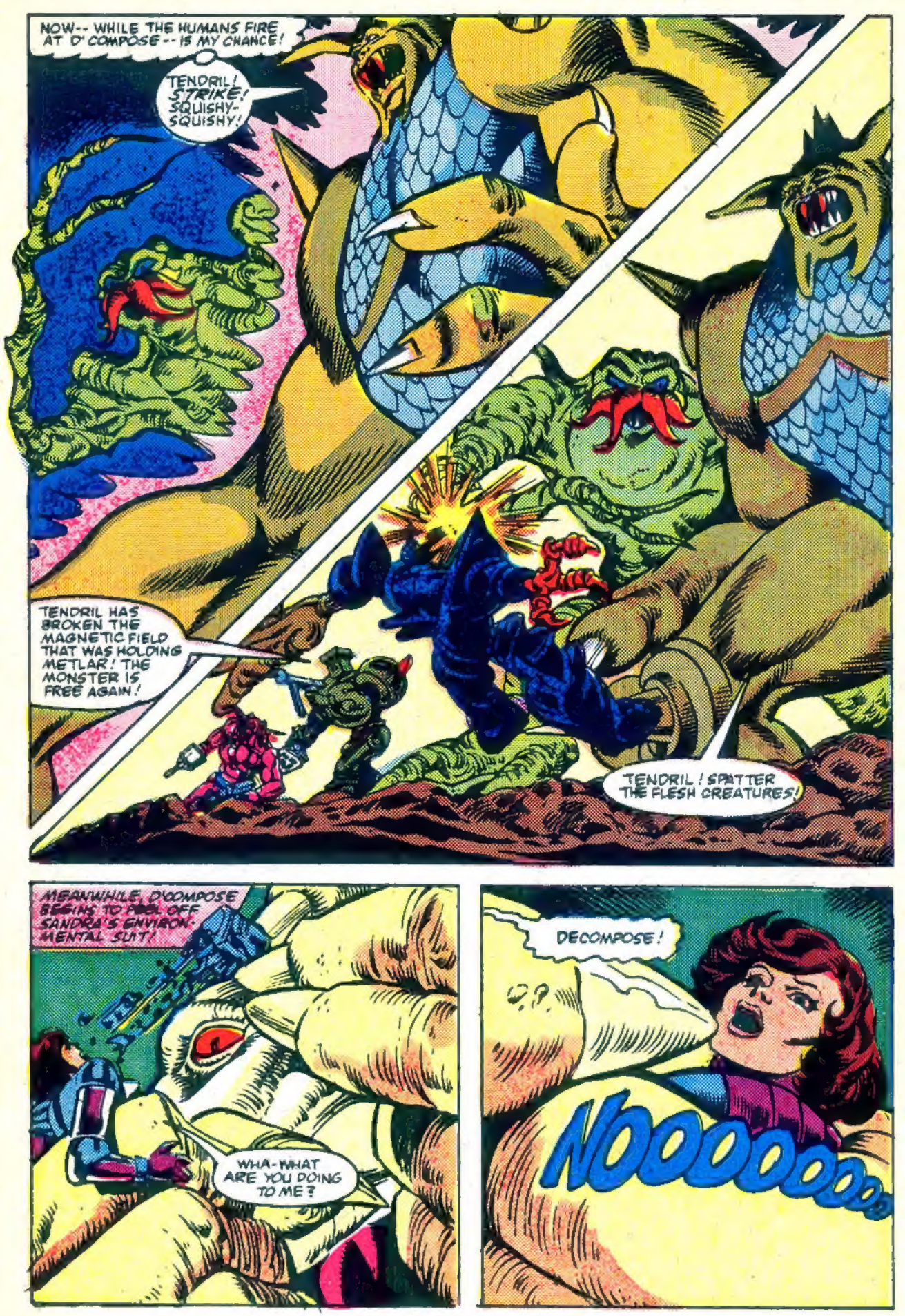

ENOUGH, TENDRIL! THESE DISGUSTING SURFACE CREATURES ARE NOT OUR MAIN PROBLEM!

BUT BEFORE METLAR CAN MENTION HIS MYSTERIOUS MAIN PROBLEM, A NEW PROBLEM MATERIALIZES! METLAR IS FROZEN IN PLACE!
EXCEPT FOR ME, METLAR!


FROM NOW ON I AM YOUR MASTER!


COME NO CLOSER, INHUMANOIDS, OR I'LL DESTROY YOUR LEADER!
THE INHUMANOIDS ARE STARTLED AND CONFUSED...
LOOK! HE'S DONE WHAT WE COULDN'T-- HE'S CAPTURED METLAR!
BUT WHO IS HE?!
ACTIVATE YOUR SCANNER, SANDRA SEE IF YOU CAN FIND A CLUE!
I HAVE A TERRIBLE FEELING... IT'S MY BROTHER... BLACKTHORNE SHORE!
UNTIL NOW YOU WERE ONLY A CREATURE OF LEGEND, A STORY TOLD TO CHILDREN, METLAR! BUT SOON THE HUMANS WILL SEE THE HORRIBLE TRUTH BEHIND THE LEGEND!
SOON, THEY SHALL BOW AND SCRAPE TO ME!


AS SANDRA STEPS OUT FROM BEHIND THE RUBBLE...
NO ONE COULD BOW LOW ENOUGH TO BE ON YOUR LEVEL, BLACK-THORNE!
SANDRA! I TOLD YOU TO STAY OUT OF MY BUSINESS!
LISTEN, HERC, I DON'T LIKE TO INTERFERE IN FAMILY QUARRELS, SO WHATDAYA SAY WE GO?
AUGER, STAY RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE!
ARE YOU FOOL ENOUGH TO BELIEVE YOU CAN CONTROL THE INHUMANOIDS, BLACK-THORNE?!
D'COMPOSE! STIFLE HER!
I MUST BIDE MY TIME AND WAIT FOR MY CHANCE!
AAAIIIIEEE!
THAT'S OUR CUE!
HE'S GRABBED SANDRA! OPEN FIRE! BE SURE NOT TO AIM NEAR HER!
PUT ME DOWN!
AAIIEE!


NOW-- WHILE THE HUMANS FIRE AT D' COMPOSE -- IS MY CHANCE!
TENDRIL! STRIKE! SQUISHY-SQUISHY!
TENDRIL HAS BROKEN THE MAGNETIC FIELD THAT WAS HOLDING METLAR! THE MONSTER IS FREE AGAIN!
TENDRIL! SPATTER THE FLESH CREATURES!
MEANWHILE, D'OOMPOSE BEGINS TO PEEL OFF SANDRA'S ENVIRONMENTAL SUIT!
WHA-WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO ME?
DECOMPOSE!
NOOOOOO

THE NIGHTMARISH TRANSFORMATIONS BEGINS!
HERC! AUGER! WEAK HUMANS!! GRR! I AM ONE WITH D'COMPOSE!
GASP! HE'S TURNED HER INTO A DECOMPOSING NIGHTMARE!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
SANDRA! I NEVER MEANT--
AND NOW I'M COMING FOR YOU! HA-HA-HA-HA!
TO BE CONTINUED!